

PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. MC2006-3/2

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Rate and Service Changes to Implement
Baseline Negotiated Service Agreement
With Washington Mutual Bank

Docket No. MC2006-3

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING
ON MOTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND PROCEEDING

(Issued May 15, 2006)

The Postal Service and Washington Mutual Bank filed a joint pleading requesting a temporary suspension of the proceeding.¹ The co-proponents would like additional time to review the Docket No. MC2004-3 and MC2005-3 Opinions recently issued by the Commission to determine their impact on the Washington Mutual case. Also, as indicated during the prehearing conference, Washington Mutual has identified corrections that need to be made to its historical volume data. The co-proponents request additional time to incorporate this new data into their presentations, and revise witness Rapaport's and witness Ayub's testimonies.

The co-proponents further request that responses to any outstanding discovery requests be temporarily suspended, with a new due date of fourteen days from the date that the revised testimonies are filed.

A procedural schedule had not been established in this case because Washington Mutual previously indicated that it was revising its historical volume data, which could influence intentions for discovery. Thus, the practical effect of the co-

¹ Joint Motion of the United States Postal Service and Washington Mutual Bank for Temporary Suspension of Proceedings, May 15, 2006.

proponent's motion is to request a suspension of the requirement to respond to discovery requests until after the revisions to the testimonies of witnesses Rapaport and Ayub have been filed.

The Postal Service and Washington Mutual shall be granted a suspension of the requirement to respond to discovery requests until fourteen days after the filing of revisions to the testimonies of witnesses Rapaport and Ayub. The co-proponents shall file revisions to the testimonies of witnesses Rapaport and Ayub, or shall file a status report indicating the progress made, including a revised anticipated filing date, by May 26, 2006.

It is ordered:

1. The Joint Motion of the United States Postal Service and Washington Mutual Bank for Temporary Suspension of Proceedings, filed on May 15, 2006, is granted consistent with the body of this ruling.
2. Revisions to the testimonies of witnesses Rapaport and Ayub, or a status report indicating the progress made, including a revised anticipated filing date, shall be filed by May 26, 2006.
3. The Postal Service and Washington Mutual are granted a suspension of the requirement to respond to discovery requests until fourteen days after the filing of revisions to the testimonies of witnesses Rapaport and Ayub.

George Omas
Presiding Officer